

BELL BAY ALUMINIUM



OPERATION

Primary smelting of aluminium

LOCATION

Bell Bay, Northern Tasmania – situated on the mouth of the Tamar River, approximately five kilometres from George Town and 45 kilometres from the City of Launceston

OWNERSHIP

100 per cent Rio Tinto

GENERAL MANAGER

Ray Mostogl

ANNUAL PRODUCTION

Approximately 190,000 tonnes per annum

MAIN PRODUCTS

Ingot, block and T-Bar. Ingot is cast in 22, 12 and 8 kilogram sizes for both purity and foundry. Block is cast in a variety of sizes and lengths ranging in weight from 9 to 13.5 tonnes per slab. T-Bar is cast to a variety of lengths to meet customer requirements

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

(as at December 31, 2016)

435 full time equivalent employees and on a typical day up to 60 other contractors undertake work at the smelter. The smelter also creates jobs indirectly for approximately 1,500 Tasmanians.

2016 ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

\$159 million spent purchasing goods and services from 313 Tasmanian suppliers and paid \$47 million in salaries. Independent studies have show that Bell Bay Aluminium contributes \$690 million* per annum to Gross State Product.

TRANSPORTATION TO MARKET

Road freight and carrier ships

PRIMARY MARKETS

Asia, India and Australia

TECHNOLOGY

Kaiser P-57 (3 Lines)

HISTORY

Opened in 1955 the smelter was the first built in the Southern Hemisphere. It began as a joint venture of the Tasmanian and Australian Governments, primarily to overcome the difficulties of importing aluminium during wartime. In 1960 the business was acquired by Comalco Industries Pty Limited. In 2000 Rio Tinto purchased Comalco. The smelter is now operated by Rio Tinto's Pacific Aluminium division.

QUALITY

With a commitment to continuous improvement, sustainable development is integrated into all aspects of the business. The smelter holds accreditation to the following internationally recognised standards: AS/NZS 14001: 2004; OHSAS 18001: 2007; AS/NZS 4801: 2001; TS16949 and AS/NZS ISO9001

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Bell Bay Aluminium has a long and proud history of supporting the Tasmanian community. Our initiatives in education, environment, health and wellbeing and the arts are designed to make a positive difference and create quality outcomes.

CONTACT DETAILS

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*Professor John Mangan (2010) "A Socio-Economic Analysis of the Rio Tinto Alcan aluminium smelter at Bell Bay in Northern Tasmania", UQ Business School Commercial 20 April, 2010.